

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 01411 251558Z  
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-02 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02  
NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 /039 W  
-----006251 260654Z /21

R 251540Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5170  
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01411

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, GW, UR  
SUBJECT: BREZHNEV VISIT

REFS: (A) PARIS 01877; (B) BONN 00999

1. DURING A CALL ON FOREIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL ON JANUARY 24, I ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING THE BREZHNEV VISIT. VAN WELL SAID SOVIET AMBASSADOR FALIN, IN ADVISING THE CHANCELLOR OF THE POSTPONEMENT ON JANUARY 17, HAD STATED THAT THE VISIT WOULD BE RESCHEDULED AS SOON AS BREZHNEV HAD RECUPERATED FROM THE FLU. IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION FROM SCHMIDT, FALIN HAD ASSURED HIM THAT BREZHNEV'S HEALTH WAS THE SOLE REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT. FALIN HAD CLEARLY INDICATED THAT THE VISIT WOULD BE RESCHEDULED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND VAN WELL SPECULATED THAT THIS MIGHT BE MARCH OR APRIL.  
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2. VAN WELL SAID THE FRG HAD NO INFORMATION ON BREZHNEV'S HEALTH BEYOND WHAT FALIN HAD TOLD SCHMIDT, I.E., THE SOVIET LEADER HAD THE FLU AND AT HIS ADVANCED AGE EXTENSIVE RECUPERATION WAS NECESSARY.

3. COMMENT: VAN WELL'S STATEMENT ABOUT FRG VIEWS ON

BREZHNEV'S HEALTH IS SOMEWHAT AT VARIANCE WITH WHAT  
WE HAVE BEEN HEARING FROM OTHER SENIOR GERMAN OFFICIALS.  
THE LATTER HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIET LEADER  
IS MORE SERIOUSLY ILL. THESE OFFICIALS ARE LESS  
INCLINED THAN VAN WELL TO THINK BREZHNEV WILL MAKE  
HIS LONG AWAITED VISIT THIS SPRING.  
STOESSEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BONN01411  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**SAS ID:** 3719411  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BREZHNEV VISIT  
**TAGS:** PGOV, GE, UR, (BREZHNEV, LEONID I)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014